(d) how many cases of violation of the ban were noticed and what action was taken on them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Except the conservation areas like National Parks and Sanctuaries, mining activity is not banned anywhere in the country. It is, however, being regulated in the areas covered under the provisions of the Notifications on Murud-Janjira, Doon Valley, Dahanu, Coastal Regulation Zone and Aravallies along with other development activities.

(b) Environment assessment of new mining projects is a pre-requisite for initigating the likely adverse impacts. A report on the environmental status of coal mines has also been carried out.

(c) and (d) Does not arise as no ban exists.

**Study on animals with the help of World Bank Funds**

2268. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study is proposed to be carried out on elephants, leopards and rhinoceros with the help of world bank funds including that in Kanha and other sanctuaries in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, what are the objects and aspects of the study; and

(c) what is the world bank aid sanctioned therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) There is no proposal with this Ministry to carry out a study on elephants, leopards and rhinoceros with the help of World Bank. There is, however, a provision in the West Bengal Forestry Development Protect assisted by the World Bank for preparing action plans based on studies on elephants, leopards and rhinoceros.

(b) and (c) The wildlife and biodiversity component of the World Bank-assisted West Bengal Forestry Development Project aims at improvement of of wildlife and protected areas management. A new wildlife research unit to be based in North Bengal is also proposed. The proposed outlay for the wildlife biodiversity component under this programme is about US $ 1.0 million.

**Uganda's calling back of all Expelled Indians**

2269. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Uganda has invited all the expelled Indians back to re-establish trade and industry in that country;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take similar action in case of NRIs from Hongkong; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) NRIs have not been expelled from Hong Kong.

(c) Does not arise.

**Chinese claim over Arunachal Pradesh**

2270. SHRI NYODAK YONGGAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware about the claim of entire area of Arunachal Pradesh as Chinese territory; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction on this claim?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) The Government are aware that the Chinese Government have claimed approximately

90,000 sq. kms. of Indian territory in Arunachal Pradesh and Assam along the Eastern sector of the India-China boundary.

(b) Arunachal Pradesh is a state of the Indian Union and an integral part of India. This position has been conveyed unambiguously to the Chinese Government on several occasions.

Prime Minister's meeting with Malaysian Prime Minister

2271. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether talks were held recently between the Prime Ministers of India and Malaysia, Dr. Mahathir, during the latter's visit to this country in connection with G-15 Summit; and

(b) if so, what are the agreements reached between the two and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir. The two Prime Ministers held wide ranging discussions on matters of bilateral, regional and international significance.

(b) No formal Agreements were concluded between the Prime Ministers. However, they witnessed signing of the following Agreements, mainly between business and industrial sectors of the two countries:—

1. Joint Venture Agreement between Telekom Malaysia and Usha Martin Industries Limited to operate Group Service Mobile (GSM) Digital Cellular Network in Calcutta.

2. Technical Assistance Agreement between Rubfil Sdn. Bhd. Malaysia and Rubfila International Limited, India. to set up a plant for the manufacture of Heat Resistant Latex Rubber Thread (HKLRT) in Palghat, Kerala.

3. Joint Venture Agreement between Land and General Lumber Bhd. and Indian Railway Construction Co. Ltd. (IRCON) to construct and operate railways and allied services in Malaysia.

4. Memorandum of Understanding between CISCO Group of Companies, Malaysia and Kasturba Medical College, Karnataka to establish a twinning programme for MBBS Degree.

5. MOU between Berjaya Group of Malaysia and Modi Mirrlees Blackstone Ltd., India for manufacturing of airconditioning equipment and development of hotel resorts and golf courses.

6. MOU Between Uniphoenix Corporation Berhad and Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation (KSIDC), India. to undertake various joint venture projects in Kerala.*

**US-Administration's defence to President Clinton's letter to pro-Pakistani Kashmiri American Council**

2272 SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA.
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to defence offered by the US Administration to President Bill Clinton's letter addressed to the head of a Pro-Pakistani Kashmiri American Council (a Kashmiri Ultras' out-fit), as reported in the press on 8th January, 1994;

(b) if so, whether Government have also received an official communication from the US Administration in this regard; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is Government reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In an official Press Advisory the US State Department clarified, inter alia, that the US President's letter to Ghulam Nabi Fai reflected the Administration's stand that the US wishes to see a peaceful resolution on all issues between India and Pakistan, including Kashmir.